

Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG

Members Present: Wendy White (Chair), Jessica Chen (Vice Chair), Katie Satchwell, Brita Bell, Diane Ducharme, Sean Leighton, Michelle Lovett, Amit Morey, Aaron Pleitner, Dina Scott, Laura Strawn and Angela Valadez.

Board/Staff Members Present: Mickey Parish.

New Members Present: Katie Shiraishi, Sarah Schober, Leo Mitchell, Andrew Capps, Enrique Garcia-Perez, Samjhana Dahal, Lori Costello, Shannon Coleman, Hayk Harutyunyan, Jorge Mosqueda, Lisa Moody, Chris Powers, Samantha Lindemann, Charles Chege, Robson Machado, Abebe Aberra and Julia Bradsher.

Visitors/Guests Present: Jaclyn Golemohammad, Isaac Rukundo, Suely Nakashima, Paul Winniczuk, Sudarsan Muralidharan, Giscla Berns and Dawanna James-Holly.

Meeting Called to Order: 9:10 a.m., Saturday, July 25, 2015.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: Katie Satchwell.

Welcome and Introductions:

Wendy opened the meeting by reminding the members that there are four PDG sponsored sessions during this week's meeting and invited everyone to join the Developing Food Safety Professionals PDG LinkedIn Group Page. Katie Satchwell read the Antitrust Guidelines. Mickey Parish (Secretary IAFP Board), our executive board liaison, gave us a board update: provided information about state of the organization (growth, new members, record attendance of 2014 meeting), Over 3100 registered attendees for 2015 conference; three lunchtime meetings from 12:15–1:15, Merlin Mann and time management on Sunday, annual business meeting on Monday and Regulatory update from USDA/FDA on Tuesday. Actively seeking webinars from PDG's. Secretary nominations are due October 1, 2015 — Academic nominations only this term. Award nominations are due in February 2016. All *Food Protection Trends* articles and issues will be digitized soon—working to digitize all issues of *JFP* back to Issue 1, Volume 1.

Old Business: Reminder of elections for new Vice Chair of DFS PDG was mentioned.

New Business:

1. Michelle Lovett, Eurofins executive, gave the talk, "What are Recruiters Looking for" that included career advice for young people on interviewing, following up, tips for writing an effective cover letter, what to ask your interviewer, performing research on company/job prior to interview, group interviews and strategies to stand out as a candidate.
2. Wendy White and Amit Morey jointly presented "Unlocking the Secret to Symposia Proposal Acceptance" which gave practical advice, including timelines, for submitting symposia and roundtable proposals to the program committee for inclusion in the subsequent conference.

Symposia/Roundtable Proposal Discussion:

1. **Scientist to Entrepreneur: Taking the Leap** (working title) – As regulatory and industry needs expand, are gaps developing which need entrepreneurs to fill? Understanding

- the place for small consultants in our industry; hearing from established and new entrepreneurs on process to self-employment, advice, resources.
- a. Organizers: Amit Morey and Sudarsan Muralidharan.
2. **How are We Going to Get Everyone Ready for FSMA?** (working title) – The training curricula are being developed, but how will we get everyone covered (2016 coverage); especially small companies?
 - a. Organizers: Diane, Julia Bradsher, Dewanna James-Holly and Laura Strawn.
 - b. Will collaborate with the Education PDG.
 3. **Capacity Building: The International Perspective** (working title) – Possible roundtable to continue the conversation of finding and developing future food safety practitioners but from an international perspective.
 - a. Organizers: Amit Morey, Julia Bradsher, and Abebe Aberra.
 - b. Will collaborate with the International PDG and/or the Education PDG.
 4. **International Perceptions in Food Safety** (working title) – Understanding the different philosophies and focus, different regions place on food safety in their food systems and culture. How understanding these cultural differences is vital to facilitating continued progress for food safety public health.
 - a. Organizers: Amit Morey, Sara Mortimore, and Wendy White.
 - b. Will collaborate with the International PDG.
 5. **Future Food Safety: 2050** (working title) – What does the future of food safety look like? We'll hear from multi-generations, look at future of food safety technology, and learn from past leaps in food safety initiatives.
 - a. Organizers: Katie Satchwell, Wendy White and Amit Morey.

Angela Valdez mentioned an idea for a monthly webinar series that could be recorded and used as a mini-Professional Development Course. Topics will be rotated and include: Understanding Corporate Speak, Going from PhD student to instructor, Leadership Development, etc. We will reach out to the Education PDG for support and guidance.

There will be a PDG call planned prior to the October 6, 2015 symposia deadline to continue the collaborative discussion.

PDG Membership Survey Results: Meeting finished with a brief discussion led by Jessica Chen on what the membership would like to see in the coming year from the DFS PDG—as referenced from survey administered prior to meeting. Suggestions for a PDG sponsored mixer were discussed in addition to webinar on career development with advice on transitioning from academic to industry (sales/corporate) and transition from graduate school to work.

Next Meeting Date: July 31, 2015 or alternate date per the Board, America's Center, St. Louis.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m. by Wendy White.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:

1. Development of a new recognition program, "IAFP's 40 Under 40." Forty IAFP members under the age of 40 years old would be recognized as developing professionals that have made strides in their respective fields and the organization. Each member would have to be nominated by a past president or existing Board member. This program would serve to encourage involvement in the organization by developing members and recognize potential leaders in our industry. We are not recommending that this be a recognition program and not be associated with a scholarship or prize. Possibly

spotlighting these individuals in *Food Protection Trends* and during the Opening Session. Sean Leighton from Coca-Cola is the originator of this idea and can be contacted for further details and to improve on the process (selection, graduation from the program after the age of 40, etc.). The Coca-Cola Company has offered to sponsor this program (financially and otherwise).

Chairperson: Wendy Wade White.